

CITY OF HAYWARD
AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE 05/27/03

AGENDA ITEM 4

WORK SESSION ITEM _____

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Chief of Police

SUBJECT: School Zone Fines

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council adopt the attached resolution authorizing fines for moving violations in specifically posted school zones to be doubled.

BACKGROUND:

The recent passage of Assembly Bill (AB) 1886 allows counties and cities to double fines in specifically posted school zones. There are 15 violations specified in the legislation ranging in fine amounts of \$1,443 for alcohol related violations to \$138 for minor traffic violations. If Council adopts this program, the current fines would be doubled for the specified violations. The funds generated by the increased fine schedule are to be used to pay for the cost of pedestrian-bicyclist safety programs. Qualifying projects include adding signage, widening sidewalks, upgrading curbs and improving crosswalks. The legislation applies specifically to Santa Barbara, Ventura and Alameda Counties. The program may be adopted by the jurisdictions noted above by a vote of the city council or county board of supervisors, as appropriate. Finally, the establishment of such a program must be done in cooperation with local school districts that fall within the adopting jurisdiction. On April 3, 2003, the Hayward Local Agencies Committee concurred with this recommendation, allowing the appropriate resolution to be presented to the Council for its consideration.

The funds generated by this program will be held by the County Treasurer in a special revenue account that will periodically be disbursed to cities participating in the program. It is difficult to anticipate how much funding would be generated by this program, as enforcement statistics in school zones are not currently tracked. The bill identifies those violations that would be subject to the increased fine amount. These violations consist of infractions, which are considered hazardous violations as well as misdemeanors such as reckless driving and driving under the influence. Some other examples of violations that are subject to fine doubling are speeding, failure to obey traffic devices, yielding the right-of-way and "speed contests".

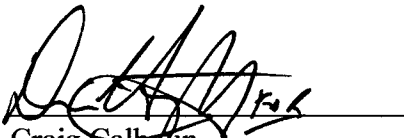
Implementing this program will require the City to install signs identifying school zones and notifying motorists of increased fines. Additionally, the City will be required to modify citation forms and to develop a means of statistically tracking citations issued in school zones. Statistics

and other information pertaining to this program must be maintained and routinely submitted to the California Highway Patrol for further analysis and evaluation. Staff estimates that it may take up to a year, possibly two to implement a program, ascertain the level of funding that will be available and be able to make a program assessment. It is anticipated that this program would provide an effective means to enhance traffic safety programs in and around Hayward Schools.

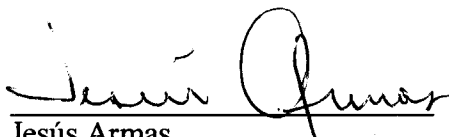
Prepared by:


Dennis Houghtelling
Deputy Chief of Police

Recommended by:


Craig Calhoun
Chief of Police

Approved by:


Jesús Armas
City Manager

DRAFT 

HAYWARD CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. _____

Introduced by Council Member _____

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO
DOUBLE THE FINES IN SCHOOL ZONES**

BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Hayward hereby authorizes and directs the City Manager to double the fines in specifically posted school zones as allowed by the passage of Assembly Bill (AB) 1886.

IN COUNCIL, HAYWARD, CALIFORNIA _____, 2003

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS:

MAYOR:

NOES: COUNCIL MEMBERS:

ABSTAIN: COUNCIL MEMBERS:

ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS:

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk of the City of Hayward

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Attorney of the City of Hayward